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DHEC Health Advisory

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CDC/Aventis Pasteur's Vaccine Allocation and Distribution Plan

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Aventis Pasteur continue to assess available information about specific customers and orders for inactivated influenza vaccine. These deliberations have resulted in the following vaccine allocation and distribution plan. This plan is divided into two phases and allocates Aventis Pasteur's remaining 22.4 million doses of inactivated influenza vaccine for distribution by Aventis Pasteur through the first week in December. Approximately 3 million doses of vaccine will be distributed nationwide each week.

- Phase 1 involves shipment of approximately 14 million doses over the coming weeks as follows:
 - All doses ordered for infants, children, and adolescents who are eligible under the federal Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program.
 - All doses ordered through the military and the Veterans Administration.
 - All doses ordered from Aventis identified for long term care.
 - Up to 50% of doses ordered from Aventis for use in hospitals, physicians' offices, and state facilities.
- Phase 2 doses are currently being evaluated by the CDC and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS). CMS will be conducting a survey of long term care facilities to determine how many doses have been ordered and how many will be shipped. At the current time phase 2 includes:
 - Orders from Chiron for long term care doses and orders from hospitals.

Note: The CDC/Aventis Pasteur vaccine allocation and distribution plan does **not** change the current Priority Groups for vaccine. Please refer to the **Interim Influenza Vaccination Recommendations, 2004--05 Influenza Season** (available at: <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5339a6.htm>) for a listing of Priority Groups for influenza vaccine.

Determining Scope of Need

DHEC continues to work with federal and state authorities, various state health care associations, and health care providers to ascertain accurate estimates of influenza vaccine distribution in South Carolina. The Department is obtaining information on vaccine need throughout the state. Using this information, the Department will determine the most effective use of available vaccine to control influenza. Decisions on reallocation of available DHEC vaccine are expected by mid-November.

Providers with excess vaccine

DHEC requests that any provider who has excess vaccine contact the Immunization Division's toll free Immunization Hotline @ **1-800-277-4687**.

Additional Information

Information about the CDC/Aventis vaccine distribution plan and additional influenza updates from the CDC can be found at the following website: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/protect/vaccineshortage.htm#supply>